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ment of the whole, but all unitedly produced as the resultant of the coöperation of the individual powers of nature."

It is easy for the Austrian professor to give utterance to this dogma, but in the present state of our knowledge we doubt whether such a broad generalization (or narrow conclusion) can be supported by demonstrable facts, and we would urge that, as in human history so in that of the lower animal world, individual effort is all important; the success of certain favored individuals effecting and insuring a progress that ultimately dominates the whole mass of organized beings.

The instances which the author gives of the losses from insect depredations are of a mild order compared with those sustained in the United States, but on the whole the subject is treated in a comprehensive and interesting way. The illustrations of this part, though sometimes too diminutive and not always carefully engraved, are perhaps sufficiently clear for a popular work.

The last part is devoted to the embryology and metamorphoses of insects, and forms a fresh, well illustrated and most convenient treatise on the subject. The works of Weismann, Kowalevsky and others are freely used, and a good deal of valuable original matter introduced; the application of the germ-layer doctrines to insects, the novel illustrations of the embryology of different insects, in which work the author's former experience as a histologist and entomologist has made him an adept, and the schematic drawings to illustrate the process of molting, and the formation of the pupa under the skin of the larva, these and other points appear to have been elaborated with a briefness and clearness of treatment which, with the previous anatomical part, will render the work a standard one for some years to come. Among the illustrations of hitherto unpublished embryological facts are cross sections of the embryo of the flesh fly, of the *Lina populi* beetle, the two diagrammatic drawings of the germ and its embryonal layers; of the embryo of Mantis, and the eggs of the swarm-moth (*Liparis dispar*). The author has attempted to combine the results of different embryologists, and to clearly expound them for the use of the general student in a way which has not hitherto been accomplished. The portion on the metamorphoses of insects is treated in a way not wholly new to the American reader, but the matter, some of which is new, and the valuable and original figures of the longitudinal section of the puparium and enclosed pupa of a muscid fly, the section through the thorax of a *Polistes* wasp, through the head of a caterpillar, and through the thorax of the cabbage-butterfly are original and valuable.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—The Genera of European Nemerteans critically revised, with description of several new species. By Dr. A. A. W. Hubrecht. (Note XLIV of the Leyden Museum. 8vo, pp. 193-232.) From the author.

Darwinism and other Essays. By John Fiske, M.A., LL.B., etc. 8vo, cloth, pp. 283. Macmillan & Co., London and New York, 1879.

Verlaufge Resultate fortgesetzter Nemertinen-Untersuchungen. Von Dr. A. A. W. Hubrecht. 8vo, pp. 3. (Ext. from *Zoologischer Anzeiger*, August, 1879.) From the author.

On the Extinct Species of Rhinoceridæ of North America and their allies. By E. D. Cope. 8vo, pp. 227-237. (Ext. from the *Bulletin of the U. S. Geol. and Geog. Surv.*, Vol. v, No. 2.) Washington, Sept. 6, 1879. From the author.

Notices Géologiques et Paléontologiques sur les Alpes Vaudoises et les régions environnantes. Par E. Renevier, Professeur. 8vo, pp. 395-409. (Ext. from *Bull. Soc. Vaud. Sc. Nat.*, xvi, 82.) Sept., 1879. From the author.

L'Archæopteryx macroura, un intermédiaire entre les oiseaux et les reptiles. Par M. C. Vogt. 4to, pp. 241-248. (Ext. *Rev. Scientifique*, 13 Septembre, 1879.) (An address before the Congress of Swiss Naturalists at Saint Gall.) From the author.

On Lithophane and New Noctuidæ. By A. R. Grote. 8vo, pp. 201-208. (Ext. from *Bull. U. S. Geol. and Geog. Surv.*, Vol v, No. 2.) Washington, Sept. 6, 1879. From the author.

Geological Survey of Hakkaido—Geological Maps: (1.) Of a rough Survey of the Kananoma Coal Fields in Yesso, Japan. By Benj. Smith Lyman, chief geologist and assistants. May, 1876. (2.) Map of Eastern Asia, to show the commercial position of the productive Coal Fields of Yesso, Japan, compiled from various sources. By the same. May, 1876. (3.) A Geological and Topographical Map of a rough Survey of part of the Nuppaomayai Coal Field in Yesso, Japan. By the same. May, 1876. (4.) A Geological and Topographical Map of a rough Survey of part of the Bibai Coal Field in Yesso, Japan. By the same. April, 1876. From the author.

Palæontological Papers, No. 11: Remarks upon certain Carboniferous Fossils from Colorado, Arizona, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming, and certain Cretaceous Corals from Colorado, together with descriptions of new forms. By C. A. White, M.D. 8vo, pp. 209-221. (Ext. from *Bull. U. S. Geol. and Geog. Surv.*, Vol. v, No. 2.) Washington, Sept. 6, 1879. From the author.

Description de quelques poissons d'espèces nouvelles de la collection du Museum d'histoire Naturelle. Par M. H. E. Sauvage. 8vo, pp. 9. (Ext. du *Bull. de la Soc. Philomathique de Paris*, séance du 12 Juillet, 1879.) From the author.

Notes on the habits of the Great Northern Shrike. By D. M. Marshall. (In the *Journal of Science*, N. Ser., Vol. 11, No. 6, August, 1879.) Toledo, O. From the author.

The Autopsy of an Elephant. By A. J. Howe, M. D. (Read before the Cincinnati Soc. of Nat. History, May 6, 1879.) 8vo, pp. 8. From the author.

On Certain Remarkable Groups in the Lower Spectrum. By Prof. S. P. Langley. 8vo, pp. 92-105, pls. 3. (Ext. from *Proc. Amer. Acad.* Presented Oct. 7, 1878.) From the author.

On the Temperature of the Sun. By Prof. S. P. Langley. 8vo, pp. 106-114. (Ext. from *Proc. Amer. Acad.* Presented Oct. 9, 1878.) From the author.

Foot-prints of Vanished Races in the Mississippi valley; being an account of some of the monuments and relics of prehistoric races scattered over its surface, with suggestions as to their origin and uses. By A. J. Conant, A.M. Large 8vo, pp. 122. Chancy R. Barns, St. Louis, Mo., 1879. From the publisher.

The Gardener's Monthly and Horticulturist, Vol. xxi, No. 248. August, 1879. From the publisher.

Monthly Weather Review, July, 1879. (General Weather Service of the United States.) 4to, pp. 8, 4 meteorological maps. From the War Department.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Vol. xi, Nos. 1, 2, 3. 8vo, pp. 52. Salem, Mass., 1879. From the Institute.

The Naturalist's Leisure Hour and Monthly Bulletin, August, 1879. From the editor.

Report of the Entomologist, Charles V. Riley, M.A., Ph.D., Aug. 22, 1879. 8vo, pp. 52, pls. vii. (Ext. from the *Ann. Report of the Dep. of Agriculture*, 1878.) From the author.

Chicago Field, Vol. xii, No. 8, Oct. 4, 1879. From the editor.

On the Structure and Affinities of the "Tabulate Corals" of the Palæozoic Period, with critical descriptions of illustrative species. By H. Alleyne Nicholson, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., etc. 8vo, cloth, pp. 342, pls. 1-xv. W. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London, MDCCCLXXIX.

Suggestions on the Maintenance, Creation and Enrichment of Forests, as applicable to the particular requirements of the colony of Victoria. By Baron Ferd. Von Mueller, F.R.S., etc., government botanist for Victoria. 12mo, pp. 31. Melbourne, 1879. From the author.

The Geological Survey of the Fortieth Parallel. By Prof. J. S. Newberry. 8vo, pp. 16. (Repr. from Pop. Sci. Monthly, July, 1879.) From the author.

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## GENERAL NOTES.

### BOTANY.

ON THE HABITAT OF RHODODENDRON CATAWBIENSE.—In the spring of 1878 I was informed that "laurel" grew in abundance a few miles from the State University, at Chapel Hill. As I was at that time unfamiliar with the flora, having but recently removed to North Carolina, my first thought suggested a species of *Kalmia*. In April I visited the locality—the northern exposure of a steep bank on Morgan's creek, some three miles from the village. Much to my surprise I beheld a dense growth, not of *Kalmia*, but of *Rhododendron*. The shrubs were from eight to fifteen feet in height and among the smooth green leaves were clusters of the most beautiful purple blossoms. Could it be *Rhododendron catawbiense* growing so luxuriantly at an altitude of only five hundred feet? I sent specimens to my friend, Prof. W. R. Dudley, of Cornell University, together with a description of the locality. In reply to my letter, he says: "I recognized them at first sight as this (*R. catawbiense*). \* \* They are indigenous only on the higher summits of the Alleghanies. We found them on the Black mountains last summer, but only above 6000 feet." Up to this time, I must confess, I had been somewhat in doubt as to the species, especially as the plant occurred in such an unusual situation, but after submitting specimens to so competent a botanist as my friend, who had studied the *Rhododendron* in its mountain home, all doubts were removed. Last spring a member of the university chancing to meet Prof. Gray, who was on a botanical excursion in Western Carolina, mentioned to him the fact that the laurel grew near Chapel Hill. Dr. Gray was evidently much astonished, and, having been informed of this, I immediately sent him a dried specimen and a description of the locality. He replied as follows: "The laurel (which I had heard of from one of your pupils whom I met in June) I am delighted to see. It is certainly, as you say, *R. catawbiense*, and most remarkable for occurring at so low a level, where it flowers early. It comes down somewhat as *R. punctatum* does in